



St Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy



With God's Guidance We Love, Learn, Respect and Forgive

**Part of the St Thomas Aquinas Catholic
Academy Trust**

Intimate Care Policy

Policy Written	23.01.22
Signed (Chair of Governors)	
Review (February 2023)	26.01.23
Signed (Chair of Governors)	

Intimate care is any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure (such as cleaning up a pupil after they have soiled themselves) to intimate personal areas. In most cases such care will involve cleaning for hygiene purposes as part of a staff member's duty of care.

The issue of intimate care is a sensitive one and will require staff to be respectful of the child's needs. The child's dignity should always be preserved with a high level of privacy, choice and control. There shall be a high awareness of child protection issues.

St. Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy is committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of children will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times. St. Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy recognises that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given. No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress or pain.

The management of all children with intimate care needs will be carefully planned and in line with KCSIE [Keeping children safe in education 2022 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/61622/keeping-children-safe-in-education-2022.pdf). The child who requires intimate care is treated with respect at all times; the child's welfare and dignity is of paramount importance.

The child will be supported to achieve the highest level of autonomy that is possible given their age and abilities. Staff will encourage each child to do as much for him/herself as he/she can. An individual intimate care plan may be drawn up for particular children as appropriate to suit the circumstances of the child. Each child's right to privacy will be respected.

Intimate care arrangements may be discussed with parents/carers on a regular basis. The needs and wishes of children and parents will be taken into account wherever possible within the constraints of staffing and equal opportunities legislation.

Health and Safety

Staff should always wear an apron and gloves when dealing with a child who is soiled or when changing a soiled nappy. Any soiled waste should be placed in a polythene waste disposal bag, which can be sealed or tied. This bag should then be placed in a bin (complete with a liner) which is specifically designated for the disposal of such waste. The bin should be emptied on a daily basis and it can be collected as part of the usual refuse collection service as this waste is not classed as clinical waste.

Staff should be aware of the school's Health and Safety policy.

Special needs

Children with special needs have the same rights to safety and privacy when receiving intimate care. Additional vulnerabilities that may arise from a physical disability or learning difficulty must be considered with regard to individual care plans for each child.

Gender Equality Duty

This policy has been reviewed in the context of Gender Equality Impact and assessed as: Neutral

St. Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Parental Permission for Intimate Care

I give my permission for to receive intimate care (for example helping with changing or following toileting) should the need arise.

I understand the staff on doing this on a **voluntary** basis and will endeavour to encourage my child to achieve independence in this area with dignity and respect.

I will provide the necessary clothes.

I understand I will be informed discretely on each occasion this happens.

Signed

Person with legal responsibility for.....